

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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THE ANSWER.

Russia's New Ruler

Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, who is a nominal ruler of Russia now, with Czar Nicholas II overthrown, is the younger brother of Nicholas and has long been out of favor with the emperor.

In fact, Michael at various times in his eventful life has been banished into exile—though usually it was called a politer name—and only a few years ago was living in France, supported by the royal revenues but unable to return to the gay life of Petrograd where he was the favorite in certain circles.

The court intrigues in which Nicholas and Michael were central figures furnish a good example of the decadence of the Romanoffs, and a good clue to some of the reasons for the successful revolution.

Michael made a morganatic marriage, with a woman known as the Sheremetevska. About this marriage much has been written, both of romance and of politics. His wife was of lowly birth, said to be considerably his senior, but beautiful, accomplished and ambitious. The romance-writers told how the grand duke had virtually renounced possibility of succession to the throne to remain with his commoner-wife. The commentators on Romanoff intrigues pointed out that the woman was an influential member of the Grand Duchess Vladimir's circle. The grand duchess is an aunt by marriage of the czar. Her son, Grand Duke Cyril, was a possibility to succeed the czar in case Grand Duke Michael were out of the way.

Between the Grand Duchess Vladimir and the czar's mother there has been for years a rivalry so keen that it embraced not only the court, but the army, the whole political structure and even the religious structure of the empire. One of them schemed to turn the line of succession toward Cyril, the other toward Michael.

It was in the midst of the dowager czar's intrigues in behalf of Michael that she and the court were shocked to learn that he had contracted the morganatic marriage, and since he refused to leave Sheremetevska, he put himself virtually beyond hope of succeeding the czar. To complicate matters further, his wife was a member of the Grand Duchess Vladimir's political group, so that Michael was practically aiding the advancement of Grand Duke Cyril. Grand Duchess Vladimir, one of the most fascinating women of Europe, is supposed never to have lost her influence over her nephew.

However, the revolution has smashed many an intrigue-founded structure in Russia, and with it goes the abandonment of Cyril's hopes for the throne of the czar. Strangely enough, it is Michael who emerges as the ruler, even though he rules by the favor of the commoners.

Those who have not closely followed recent Russian history may be at a loss to know why Michael, one of the true Romanoff dynasty, was set on the throne. The reason lies in his personality. He is naturally democratic of character. In fact, ever since he was a little boy he has been nicknamed "the plebeian." His determination not to desert his morganatic wife proved a powerful factor in his favor with the commoners, even while it angered his mother and the czar bitterly. He was a friend of the great Count Witte and induced the czar to give social recognition to Witte's wife, though there was a cloud over her earlier life. Michael is now 38 years of age. He is a great lover of outdoor sports, is popular in the army and generally regarded as having some decision of character.

Not improbably Michael's accession to the throne may be but a stop-gap for the period of the war. The real hero of the Russians is Grand Duke Nicholas Nicolaievitch, the giant military leader. Reports are probably correct that he is to be the commander-in-chief of all the armies. He is so badly needed in the field that he can hardly accept the responsibilities of the exordium. But when the war is over, if Russia emerges victoriously and the grand duke has had as large a share in victory as he has hitherto, he will be more popular than ever. Then he may become the czar.

That Russia is ready for a truly republican form of government is doubtful. Her millions of ignorant people for many generations have looked upon the czar as the head not only of their government but as a leader of their religious faith. In a country where religious faith plays such a tremendous part in life, and where millions of peasants are accustomed to venerating the head of a dynasty, it will be difficult to uproot the very foundations of their faith. Freedom to them does not mean the right to name their own ruler, but freedom of speech and of the press, freedom from the galling rule of spies and secret police, freedom from iron-handed provincial exploitation.

Whether the Slav character will stand the new test remains to be seen. Their revolution was accomplished with amazing celerity and steadiness of conduct. Will the onrushing flood of new ideals and new, dim aspirations sweep them from their feet and result in a century or so of clash until they shall have fought their way to the light and established republican institutions out of the welter of half-understood forest? Or will they progress steadily and without serious internal strife along the road of true representative government?

We expect a despatch at any minute saying that Brother Bryan is hurrying to Washington to protest against settling the railroad strike.

The sinking of three American steamers yesterday is Germany's answer to every note President Wilson has despatched to Berlin since the Lusitania was torpedoed.

It is also the answer to those who have been hopelessly repeating for the past few weeks, "But Germany hasn't sunk an American ship yet."

Repeatedly the unquestionable fact has been pointed out that Germany's submarine warfare made it only a question of time until American ships were sunk as British, French, Russian, Spanish, Dutch, Norwegian and Swedish ships were sunk. It was only a question of time until Germany would violate international law and her own pledges so ruthlessly that there would be no question of an "overt act."

The stern logic of events has driven Germany to this situation since first her U-boats were turned loose at sea to break the bulldog grip of the British blockade. Her course could not be pursued in observance of American demands. Probably her submarine commanders had been instructed to make as much of an exception as possible in the case of American ships, but as the blockade grew tighter, even these exceptions became impossible under the Teuton scheme of frightfulness at sea.

Desperation grows on Berlin as the war wears along and the great Teuton fighting-machine is unable to break the "iron ring." Such desperation breeds the mad idea of a naval warfare which inevitably arrays against the Germans every neutral nation. The United States is dealing now not with a government which is conducting its affairs in the channels that ordinarily guide national department, but with a military force run amuck, with a nation in a frenzy of rage, hurt by the terrific blows its adversary has sent to the very bottom of its physical makeup, and blinded by its impotence and its suffering for food and war supplies.

AN APPRECIATIVE FRIEND.

Hawaii is "advertised by its lovin' friends" far more than we in the islands are able to discover. Perhaps no more effective publicity work is done than that voluntary contribution of sincere appreciation which visitors here vouchsafe in "letters home."

Here, for instance, comes to hand a clipping from the Santa Ana, Cal., Register, with a two-column article by Judge W. H. Thomas, the Californian pleasantly remembered from his visit of last fall. The article is one of several contributed to the same paper. In the present instance, he writes of the large amount of benevolent, philanthropic and educational work done in Honolulu.

It is rather unusual to see in a traveler's letters a large amount of space bestowed on the territorial prison system and on that efficient high sheriff, William P. Jarrett. Not that the subject is underserving, but that comparatively few tourists look into the matter of prisons. Judge Thomas did so and his praise of Sheriff Jarrett's work is golden. "The Girl's Industrial School, Kapiolani Girls' Home, Punahou Academy, Bishop Museum and Kamehameha schools are other institutions mentioned in his article with lively appreciation, and he does not forget to speak of the pleasures offered tourists in these islands. Judge Thomas is a discriminating "booster" whose praise is the more worth while because it is based on "little journeys" of exploration in the highways and byways of the city.

A STICK TO THE ISSUES.

Tonight there will be a public hearing on the new city charter, 7:30 o'clock, hall of representatives. Let's all stick exactly to the issues at hand, wasting no time in anything else.

The "convention charter" is one issue. The modifications of the convention charter as proposed in the Oahu delegation make up another issue. The Chamber of Commerce's amendments are another issue.

Certain well-defined proposals are up for discussion. If any progress is to be made, the discussion must be squarely to the point.

The czar of all the Russias is an example for all time of what happens to a public official at the head of a rottenly incompetent government. After awhile the men of brains rise in their might and wipe the incompetent government out of existence.

Will some busy congressman now start an investigation to find out why the railroad brotherhoods called off the strike yesterday, and the supreme court upheld the Adamson law immediately afterward?

The man who tries to defend the present public roads of this city and county ought to be examined by an expert alienist.

Judging by the attitude of some of the men, those railway brotherhoods do not make up a happy family.

Germany has conducted another brilliantly victorious retirement on the Somme.

When in Rome, do as the Romanoffs did not do.

The answer to Kut-el-Amara was Bagdad.

EXPLANATION OF ARREST FOUND IN SAN FRANCISCO

As an aftermath of the arrest and release of the Russians who reached here on the Korea Maru and in explanation of the causes that led to the complaint made to the police here and further as showing that the whole affair has probably blown over news published in the San Francisco Chronicle and received here today is of interest. The article says:

"In a fuzzy fur overcoat and a fine frenzy, Count Michael Borzakovsky of the Imperial Russian government, accompanied by the Treasury, walked down the gangplank of the Korea Maru yesterday and filled the air with explosive conversation as he grasped the hand of Consul-General Artemi Vyvotdzew, San Francisco representative of the czar.

"Evidently Vyvotdzew knew the Count was coming, for there was a grand limousine awaiting to whisk his excellency to the Russian Consulate, thence to the St. Francis Hotel, and there, for the first time, the passenger learned the real facts in what began as grand tragedy and wound up as comedy, outstripping the dream of the playwright.

The Mysterious Package
"The Count had a red-sealed bundle that was locked in the hotel safe as soon as he arrived. Some of his fellow passengers say it is securities consigned to a New York bank, to be exchanged for coin of the American Republic; others say it is diplomatic correspondence for Washington impossible to transmit via Europe because of submarine activities in the Atlantic. Whatever it is, it carries two guards, who constitute the principal dramatic personae of the play.

"These guards, M. Sorokine and M. Kodnitsky, were arrested at Honolulu as soon as the steamer touched the pier. Officers having been summoned by wireless. The arrest was the source of the Count's anger, and for it the Russian Secret Service Department must answer to the Russian Treasury Department. **Hist! Spies Aboard!**

"It appears that the Russian secret service was advised that there were two German spies on the Korea Maru, who might steal the Count's mysterious package. "By one of those strange kinks of Russian governmental affairs two secret service men were detailed to the ship and advised to watch the Count, but they were not told that he had also a personal bodyguard, to wit, Sorokine and Kodnitsky. So, sleuthing around the ship, all the way from Hongkong to within a hundred miles of Honolulu, they concluded that for ways that were dark and tricks that were vain the said Sorokine and Kodnitsky were peculiar. They watched them watch the Count's bundle, and the more they watched, the wiser they grew, and then they "hit the radio" to Honolulu.

"Nobody on the ship knew enough Russian to tell what the Count said when he heard a commotion as soon as he docked at Honolulu and he saw his bodyguard put in irons. The two members of the Russian secret service understood him, however, and they confessed afterwards that it was the most pungent and picturesque morsel of Russian language it had ever been their pleasure to hear. They left the ship at Honolulu to catch the next ship back, but the passengers on the Korea Maru say they are quite certain that the two gentlemen will never go back—if they can find some other clime in which to make a living outside of the profession of detecting."

It was understood here that all of the Russians proceeded on to San Francisco on the Korea Maru.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

SHERIFF ROBE Couldn't the fighting phalanx move the German refugee ships?

FIRE CHIEF THURSTON: The Russian woman in Kaimuki was a brave little fellow when she saved her home and her children by fighting the flames with a blanket. Outside of burns on her arm the loss of the blanket was about the only damage done. (The heroine was Mrs. Peter Christesko of Noeau street.)

W. R. FARRINGTON: First "they" say that the businessmen have no votes and are politically incompetent. When the businessmen began to bestir themselves and assume proper responsibilities of citizenship, "they" say that the businessmen are trying to coerce. The outstanding fact of this civic situation at the present time is that the crumbling and downfall of municipal incompetence, as represented in incompetent business methods, is just as certain as the fall of monarchies, even Russia. The only question is—when the people who understand business methods will wake up and act.

Celebrations were held throughout Chile of the centenary of the battle of Chacabuco.

NEW EDUCATION FEATURES TEXT OF HOUSE BILLS

Establishment of an evening school at Hilo as a branch of the Hilo high school, and of a vocational trade high school at Kailua, North Kona, Hawaii, is provided for in bills introduced in the house today by Representative N. K. Lyman.

The department of public instruction is authorized to establish and maintain the night school at Hilo, the bill making the following provisions regarding it:

"Section 2. Rules and regulations. The department of public instruction shall make rules and regulations in the manner provided by law as it may deem necessary as to the requirements of entrance to and graduation from said evening school, as to grades and courses of study and as to all other matters pertaining to the conduct and management thereof, including the appointment of teachers and their salaries, with the view to maintaining the proper standard efficiency thereof.

"Section 3. Open to whom. Said evening school shall be free and open alike to all persons desiring to avail themselves of its advantages and who may be able to conform to the requirements for entering the same, and any person may, subject to the rules and regulations established for said school, take one or more of the courses provided for therein and further that any student who has passed the seventh grade may be eligible for entrance. The school shall be open on any and all school days from the hour of 6:30 p. m. and up to 9 p. m."

The bill relating to the proposed vocational trade school at Kailua provides as follows:

"Section 2. Rules and regulations. The department of public instruction shall make such rules and regulations in the manner provided by law as it may deem necessary as to the requirements of entrance to and graduation from said vocational trade high school, as to grades and courses of study and as to all other matters pertaining to the conduct and management thereof, including the appointment of a principal and assistants and their salaries, with the view to maintaining the proper standard of efficiency thereof.

"Section 3. Open to whom. Said Kona vocational trade high school shall be free and open alike to all persons desiring to avail themselves of its advantages and who may be able to conform to the requirements for entering the same, and any person may, subject to the rules and regulations established for said school, take one or more of the courses provided for therein."

VITAL STATISTICS

BORN.
McCORMACK—In Honolulu, March 16, 1917, to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McCormack of 2432 Alway street, a son.

MARRIED.
ANDRADE-CABRAL—In Honolulu, March 15, 1917, Roman Andrade and Miss Carrie Cabral, Rev. Father Ulrich Taube of the Catholic Cathedral officiating; witnesses—J. Guzman and Bernada M. Guzman.

DIED.
BALCENA—In Honolulu, March 16, 1917, Jose, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Nemecio Balcena of Queen street, Kakaako.
BINDOY—In Honolulu, March 16, 1917, Mrs. Bionda Bindoy of 2316 Kapiolani road, native of Philippine Islands, 22 years old.
KAULIA—In Honolulu, March 15, 1917, Sarah, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel V. Kaulia, Jr., of 636 Queen street.

PERSONALITIES

JOE LUIZ, the automobile man, has announced himself as a candidate for supervisor on the Republican ticket.

M. S. CANARIO of Hilo, who has been visiting here with relatives and friends, has decided to remain here two weeks more.

R. MOROI, Japanese consul-general, left with Secretary Kondo Saturday for an inspection trip to the Kakaako and Laie plantations. The consul went to investigate the new independent Japanese language school at Kakaako.

FARMERS NOW BUYING HIGH PRICED AUTOMOBILES

Reports from dealers gathered from all over the country show that during the past year a large percentage of buyers of cars ranging between \$1500 and \$2000 were farmers. Hudson super-sizes proved a big favorite with the prosperous farmer. Until last year manufacturers of low-priced cars had considered that the farmer was their exclusive customer, and did not think any amount of exploitation could introduce a car costing more than \$1000 in any numbers. The unexcelled prosperity which

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Paid Publicity Broadens the Field.

The net paid circulation of the Star-Bulletin February 16 was **6215**

has flooded the agricultural districts of the United States and Canada with money makes the outlook for the sale of medium-priced cars even better for this year. The Hudson Motor Car Company has already received enough orders for super-sizes to be delivered to farmers, to indicate a great year's sale in the grain, cotton and truck producing portions of the two countries.

TIRE ESTIMATE FOR 1917 SETS NEW MARK
It is estimated that more than \$350,000,000 will be spent in the purchase of tires for pleasure cars alone during 1917. The estimate is based on the number of cars in use, the average mileage, the guarantees ordinarily made with tires and on other figures of tire consumption by car owners in the past.

Want to live at the Beach this summer?

There's plenty of room right now, at

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Cottages are now open to Honolulu people who wish to get the benefits of Waikiki's summer breezes, sunshine and salt water. TrentTown offers comfortable rooms and all the beach privileges at very moderate cost.

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